## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 HA-05 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IGA-02 /093 W

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R 170835Z JAN 78 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7077 INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA AMEMBASSY ATHENS AMEMBASSY LONDON USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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STATE PASS TO AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, CY

SUBJECT: PUBLICITY FOR U.S. AID PROJECTS

REF: 77 NICOSIA 3259

1. THROUGHOUT 1977, THE EMBASSY CARRIED OUT A
CONCERTED PROGRAM TO ACHIEVE APPROPRIATE LOCAL PUBLICITY
FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE GREEK
CYPRIOT COMMUNITY. WE SOUGHT INVITATIONS TO
OPENINGS OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FINANCED BY UNHCR
(REFTEL), ENCOURAGED MINISTERS TO INCLUDE
REFERENCE TO U.S. IN APPROPRIATE SPEECHES, ETC. WE
WERE TROUBLED ON JANUARY 8 WHEN PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU
MADE WHAT WAS BILLED AS "A MAJOR SPEECH" TO THE FOURTH
PANCYPRIAN REFUGEE CONFERENCE IN NICOSIA WITH EMPHASIS ON
REFUGEE HOUSING, AND FAILED TO MENTION THE U.S. AS A RESULT
WE MADE REPRESENTATIONS REPORTED BELOW.
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2. AID AFFAIRS OFFICER RAISED SUBJECT STELLA SOULIOTOU, PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS RED CROSS ON JANUARY 13. SOULIOTOU POINTED OUT THAT GOC HAS BEEN INCREASING ITS EFFORTS TO ASSURE THAT CYPRIOTS ARE INFORMED ABOUT U.S. AID BUT SHE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT "IT WAS A MISTAKE" FOR PRESIDENT TO MAKE A SPEECH ABOUT REFUGEE PROGRAMS

AND NOT EVEN MENTION U.S. SHE SAID REASON FOR OMISSION WAS THAT SPEECH WAS MADE IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL, PRE-ELECTION CONTEXT. THUS, NO MENTION WAS MADE OF FOREIGN DONORS, EXCEPT GREECE. SOULIOTOU PROMISED TO DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU SOONEST. SHE SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY ALSO COMPLAIN TO MINISTRY.

- 3. SOULIOTOU CALLED AMBASSADOR LATER JANUARY 13 TO REPORT SHE HAD SPOKEN WITH KYPRIANOU. HE AGREED THAT HE SHOULD HAVE MENTIONED U.S. IN JANUARY 8 SPEECH AND PROMISED TO INCLUDE SUCH A REFERENCE AT THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY.
- 4. DCM MENTIONED THE SAME SUBJECT TO FONOFF DIRGEN PELAGHIAS STILL LATER JAN 13. PELAGHIAS SAID HE HAD NOTICED THE ABSENCE OF REFERENCES TO U.S. IN THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH. HE WOULD HAVE MENTIONED IT TO THE PRESIDENT IF HE HAD SEEN THE TEXT BEFORE DELIVERY. HE SPECULATED THAT THE OMISSION WAS A "SPEECHWRITER'S ERROR" AND NOTED THAT A SIMILAR ERROR MUST HAVE OCCURRED WHEN PRESIDENT CARTER FAILED TO MENTION CYPRUS IN HIS UNGA SPEECH LISTING IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS. PELAGHIAS SAID HE ALSO WOULD DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AND WOULD CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS TO ASSURE THAT U.S. GETS PROPER CREDIT FOR ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES.

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5. COMMENT: WE ARE REPORTING THIS INCIDENT BECAUSE IT IS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE CONTINUING DIFFICULTIES WE HAVE EXPERIENCED IN TRYING TO GET GOC TO INFORM GREEK CYPRIOTS ABOUT U.S. AID CONTRIBUTIONS. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM AT ALL LEVELS IN GOC, AND HAVE REPEATEDLY BEEN ASSURED THAT CORRECTIVE ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN. THIS USUALLY RESULTS IN ALMOST GRUDGING MENTION OF U.S. IN A SPEECH OR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT OPENING. SINCE GOC HAD ADVERTISED JANUARY 8 SPEECH AS A MAJOR STATEMENT ON REFUGEES AND SINCE IT INCLUDED EXTENSIVE REFERENCE TO "GOC HOUSING PROGRAM" WE FELT WE SHOULD MAKE IT AN ISSUE. WE HOPE FOR REMEDIAL ACTION ON JANUARY 19 WHEN A SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN FINANCED BY U.S. IS OPENED. CRAWFORD

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	Sheryl P. Walter	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	20 Mar 2014
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